MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1781.

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

JUST is the charter of every citizen [illegible] in a republic, to examine, censure or approve [illegible] trusted, made the [illegible] powers of government, and the judicial, executive and legislative, are all subject to his inquisitorial jurisdiction. In a popular government, every man claims to be a politician, and though I am not acquainted with the great questions, which I have read of, and which have, for a century, engaged the attention of the wise politicians in Europe, the balance of trade, and the balance of power, yet I can plainly discover, that our great political machine is ill conducted, and that our affairs are reduced to a disgraceful extremity. We have neither money, or credit, and our rulers seem quite indifferent, and uninterested in the matter. They can truly say, we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and we have left undone those things which we ought to have done. To raise, feed, cloath, and pay, a respectable army, would be the most probable and effectual means, with the blessing of Providence, to defend our liberties, save our country from devastation, and secure our independence. This cannot be effected without money (I mean the precious metals, gold or silver) or credit. Of specie, there is not sufficient within the thirteen states, and no laws can extract it out of the pockets of the owners. One ounce of public credit, is of more real value to a state, than a ton of gold. The credit of a government, like that of an individual, depends on its ability and integrity; if either is suspected, no temporary expedients will gain confidence, or induce the suspicious to entrust their property to its faith and honour. Public faith, once violated, like a lady's honour, cannot be restored; and even so be forgot the most remedies must be applied, time, penitence and reformation. Nothing but necessity, and that the most absolute and self-evident, can excuse a breach of public faith. Our affairs were very alarming, and our paper money in very low credit, before the resolve of congress of the 18th of March 1780. Many men were of opinion, that it was just and necessary for congress to adopt that measure; and some contended, that there was no breach of public faith. I ever was of a different sentiment. The congress emissions, compared with gold, in March 1780, were of the value of one for forty; they are at this time, one for eight hundred. The effects therefore of the measure, are visible to the meanest capacity, and it is observable that the whigs were the greatest sufferers by it. In five years the continental money depreciated forty for one, and in the last fourteen months, it further depreciated seven hundred and sixty for one. If necessity be admitted to excuse congress, the same cause cannot be assigned for the breach of faith by our legislature. Their act of calling in our act of assembly and convention money, was an unnecessary and wanton violation of their plighted faith; dictated by passion, party, and faction. Vile calumnies were suggested, and the basest slanders circulated, to urge the credulous and weak to adopt a measure, from which we daily experience the most distressing and fatal consequences, and which, unless speedily removed, will prove the destruction of our cause, and the loss of our independence and freedom. This is the time for reflection, and a cool dispassionate consideration of our past, and what shall be our future conduct. I hope the hour of our folly is past. The principle suggested for the exchange of our new paper dollar for forty old, was this; that the money had depreciated by common consent, and by the conduct of the owners; and that no injury was done by giving them the value of the money in their hands. That this principle was false, might not be obvious to every one, but there is no man who did not readily discover, that it would equally apply to every future emission, and therefore at once all confidence in our government was pulled up by the roots. From what other cause has the state money depreciated? From what other cause have the people refused to lend their money, or property, to the state; though the premium offered was very liberal? The fund for the redemption of the state emission is unquestionably sufficient, and the property pledged will sell for more gold and silver than the £. 30,000 issued on its credit; and yet it has already sunk more in value, in ten months, than the continental emissions in the three first years of the war. One silver dollar will this day purchase eight state dollars. It cannot be owing to the quantity, and we have no tender law, it can only flow from an *universal* want of confidence in our legislature. What a disgraceful, humiliating thought! The common people reason thus, if the *late* assembly could call in the act of assembly and convention money, which the public passed as gold and silver, because it afterwards depreciated, the present, or some future assembly, may call in and exchange the new emission upon the same principle. If the rulers of any people are wise and virtuous, their actions will be prudent, just and honourable, and the people they govern will be esteemed, as possessing their virtues. It is an old, but true observation, that the people are generally to be judged of by the character of their governors. Some mode must be adopted to give a real, permanent value and credit to our paper money, or we shall be unable to recruit, or maintain our army. Confidence must be secured to the promises of our assembly, for on credit alone can we carry on the war. Can any situation be more disgraceful and dishonourable, than that the constituents will not give credit to the promises of their representatives? It might be justly concluded, that the people, in general, condemn their conduct. Indeed the very men who were so noisy and clamorous, and who were the most ignorant of the two houses, will not give credit to the new money, or receive it, but at the highest depreciation. Their insignificance alone can save them from the pen of the historian, who would otherwise brand them with the infamy they so justly merit. Our legislature must learn to be honest, at least appear to possess that virtue, before they can ever expect any reliance to be placed in their plighted faith or honour. Party, cabal and faction will ever destroy any state; union, wisdom, and integrity, can alone restore our affairs, and give confidence to government. CENSOR.

THE conduct of the *second* Maryland regiment, at the action of Guilford, has been compared with the behaviour of the *first*, and various reasons assigned for their misconduct. It is reported that an officer of rank and reputation has imputed their misbehaviour to the want of officers, there being only eight to six companies. The late retreat of our troops from before Camden is imputed to the same cause. If this be true, there must be a neglect of duty somewhere. A great number of our officers are within this state. The military character of our troops stands high, and ought to be preserved. Ought not the assembly to enquire into the above facts?

CIVIS.

SPAIN, *Camp at St. Roch, Nov.* 30.

A TRENCH or way of communication was begun on the night of the 23d, and continued every night since, to secure the passage of troops from the line to the new battery of St. Charles; the work has advanced 138 fathoms already, notwithstanding the bad ground obliged the workmen to use fascines. The place keeps up a constant fire with cannon and mortars; the damage we have sustained amounts to 2 men killed and 6 wounded, and some workmen who have received contusions.

PARIS, *Dec.* 31. The declaration of war, by England, against Holland at first astonished us; but we now perceive it to be an act of despair; this power now plays "quit or double." It is more glorious for her, if she must sink, to sink under the weight of all Europe. We doubt not but she will procure present advantages by this rupture with Holland, but in the end she has one enemy more, who has great resources in her population and riches, will openly supply our marine, and by taking a Danish squadron in her pay (as is reported) can destroy the commerce of Great-Britain in the north.

They speak of a treaty concluded and signed by the king of Prussia, Russia and France, to maintain the system of pacification by land, as they strove to establish it by sea.

LONDON, *January* 9.

Sunday last the admiralty office received a confirmation of the accident, which happened to the Thunderer of 74 and Stirling Castle of 64; they were lost in the terrible storm of which so much has been said, and will yet be said: commodore Walsingham was on board the Thunderer.

The Hollanders have lost many vessels, since the publication of our last manifesto; but they have so many thousands to lose, that they are not yet affected with this loss. Yet it is very possible and even very probable, that by force of repeated losses, the sensibility of the Dutch nation will be roused from its lethargy, and that the populace will then render us that justice which the states general have refused; we demand as reparation of the insult offered us by the treaty of Amsterdam with the Americans, but the punishment of the rash M. Van Berkell, a requisition as just as moderate.

According to a note given by the Dutch ambassador, in the course of the administration of the marquis of Rockingham, this nation had then in our funds 56 millions sterling; it appears from the most exact calculation, that since this epocha, it has placed there 13 millions more; it has then at this time 69 millions in our funds; an object of such importance for this republic, that the idea of war with us must needs carry terror into the bosoms of all its inhabitants.

Although 543 commissions against the Dutch have already passed the great seal, the demand for them is so great that the offices have scarce time to breathe.

The following is a list of the English vessels, which suffered the hurricane of

October last, independent of such whose names have not yet appeared.

The Thunderer, of 74 guns; Stirling Castle, 64; Phœnix, 44; Andromeda, 28; Laurel, 28; Scarborough, 24; Deal Castle, 24; Beavers Prize, 18; St. Vincent, 16; Cymelion, 14; Victor, 16; Barbados, 16. Lost.

Alcmena, 40; La Blanche, 38. Not heard of yet.

Ajax, 74; Montague, 74; Vengeance, 74; Amazon, 28; Venus, 32. Returned much shattered to St. Lucia.

Ruby, 64; Hector, 74; Tridents, 64; Grafton, 74; Egmont, 74; Briſtol, 50; Ulyſſes, 44; Endimion, 44; Pomona, 28; Endeavour, 16. Arrived in a very bad condition at Jamaica.

BOSTON, *April* 29.

The following anecdote was handed to us by a gentleman, who was on board one of the French ſhips, during the action of the 16th ult. A grenadier of the boiſſonnois regiment having had one of his legs broke, and almoſt tore to pieces by a cannon ball, took out his knife, cut away the remaining fleſh, and thr.w the leg overboard, and ſetting down went on loading his muſket, and with great compoſure ſaid, "*Je rend graces a Dieu, il me reſte encore deux main et un jambe pour ſervir mon roi*—I thank God I have two hands and one leg left to ſerve my king with."

April 26. Private letters from Europe, of good authority, mention, that the king of Pruſſia had proceeded far in, if not actually completed, a negociation in favour of the ſeveral contracting powers of the armed neutrality, and for the protection of their territorial dominions in caſe they ſhould be threatened upon account of any ſtep taken by theſe powers in the congreſs of neutrality.

ANNAPOLIS, *May* 24.

Extract of a letter from an officer of information in the ſouthern army to his friend in this city, dated Camp, before Camden, May 1, 1781.

"After lord Cornwallis's retreat from Deep river, the impracticability of overtaking and bringing him to action, as well as the impoſſibility of feeding our army on the ſame rout, appeared evident. General Greene, ſenſible it would anſwer no good purpoſe to remain upon Cape-Fear river, puſhed his operations into this ſtate with a view of drawing his lordſhip to ſuccour his poſts in this country. The time of ſervice of the Virginia militia expiring at that period, we were left too weak to ſtorm or completely inveſt Camden. The general detached lieutenant-colonel Lee's legion and part of the ſecond Maryland regiment to aſſiſt general Marian in the reduction of ſome of their leſſer poſts. Fort Watſon has already ſurrendered; upwards of 100 priſoners were taken, and we may expect ſome other partial advantages; but Camden having a garriſon very little inferior to our preſent force, our expectations of reducing it cannot be very ſanguine. On the 25th inſtant, lord Rawden very gallantly ſallied upon our lines, and was ſucceſsful. We were obliged to retire about five miles, with having upwards of 100 men killed and wounded. The opportunity was what we ardently wiſhed for, and at one moment promiſed us victory and the town; but the next clouded the bright proſpect; a part of the firſt Maryland regiment (which were advancing) got into ſome diſorder; colonel Gunby ordered the whole to retire, he ſays to take another poſition; the ſecond Maryland regiment, influenced by the movements of the firſt, alſo retired. The firſt Virginia regiment falling back at this critical inſtant, the ſecond had orders to retreat, and the whole body of infantry abandoned the field, leaving the enemy to recover from a confuſion which the ſpirited behaviour of our cavalry and light infantry and the well directed fire from our artillery, with the firſt efforts of the line, had thrown them into. We loſt a golden opportunity of acquiring glory, as well as ſolid advantages. The enemy's loſs in killed, &c. is much greater than our's; we took upwards of 60 priſoners, including 20 ſtaff and commiſſioned officers."

May 22, 1781.

THE ſubſcriber intends to petition the general aſſembly, after this notice ſhall have been publiſhed eight weeks, for a power to ſell an undivided moiety of the lot and tanyard in the city of Annapolis, which belonged to her late huſband Joſeph Selby, and by him deviſed to her during life, and after her deceaſe, to her daughter, who is now an infant.

ANNE SELBY, executrix of
Joſeph Selby, deceaſed.

TEN STATE DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN or STRAYED, from off the commons adjoining this city, on Tueſday laſt, a ſmall bay HORSE, ſhort and chunky, remarkably ſtrong and well made, has a ſmall ſtar on his forehead, is aged, trots and canters, and was lately ſhod on his fore feet only. Whoever delivers ſaid horſe to the hon. James Brice, Eſq; in Annapolis, or the ſubſcriber in Bladenſburg, ſhall be paid the above reward.

WILLIAM SYDEBOTHAM.

LANDS FOR SALE.

STRING ENLARGED, 644 acres, reſurveyed in January 1775, and certificate returned for 845 acres, examined and paſſed, by the name of *Head-Quarters*, but not patented, becauſe of the war: part of *Manſell's United Friendſhip*, 359 acres: part of *Manſell's Purchaſe*, 1400 acres: *The Scheme*, 74 acres: theſe four tracts lie adjoining each other. Part of *Windſor-Foreſt*, 1236 acres; this tract lies about 4 miles from the above lands. All the tracts are called *Foreſt-land*; a conſiderable part of them is very good ſoil; each tract is very well watered, and there are on the whole about 200 acres of good meadow ground. There is little timber on the above tracts, except on the main weſtern fork of the weſtern, or Delaware, falls of Patapſco river, where enough may be procured to build tobacco houſes: theſe lands lie near the great main road from Frederick-town to Baltimore, and between 25 and 30 miles from the latter, and in the neighbourhood of the late Mr. Samuel Manſell. *Reſolution*, granted for 667 acres, of which about one half is clear of elder tracts; this land lies below *Bush-creek*, about 8 miles from Frederick-town, near one Solomon Turner's. Part of *The Mountain of Wales*, 200 acres; this tract lies near Mr. Jacques's Iron-works. In all about 4,347 acres. A reaſonable price will be taken for the *whole*; if the tracts are ſold *ſeparately*, the price will be more or leſs, according to the quality and ſituation. The title to all the tracts is indiſputable. New ſtate money, or bond with ſecurity, for tobacco or ſpecie, with intereſt, will be taken in payment, and the lands immediately conveyed. Enquire of the printers.

April 16, 1781.

TO BE SOLD,

ABOUT 6 or 700 acres of land lying in Frederick county, about 45 miles from Baltimore-town, on which are three ſmall farms, each containing about 70 acres of cleared land, the quality of the ſoil is equal to moſt lands in the ſtate for farming; the lands are quite level, have a ſufficient ſtock of timber, good water, and lie contiguous to ſeveral good mills. Part of the purchaſe money is expected in hand. For further terms apply to Samuel Cleland, living at Pipe creek bridge near the land. If it ſhould prove convenient to the purchaſer, two or three negroes will be taken in pay.

April 11, 1781.

By virtue of an act of the aſſembly of Maryland, paſſed in December 1778, will be expoſed to ſale, by public vendue, on Monday the 28th day of June next, for gold or ſilver,

THAT ſituation for any kind of water-works, known by the name of the CURTIS's CREEK FURNACE, lying on the head of the ſaid creek, in Anne-Arundel county, about 12 miles by water from Baltimore-town, or ſeven miles by land, with ſundry tracts of land, containing 4238 acres more or leſs. There are, where the furnace ſtands, a large ſtone dwelling houſe, kitchen, meat houſe, ſmith's ſhop, and mill houſe, all of which, with the furnace, may be made very good. The lands moſtly lie on and contiguous to Curtis's, Marley, and Stony creeks, and abound with wood and timber, pine, oak, hickory, and cheſnut. Craft for the reception of wood, &c. go up all thoſe creeks. About 100 acres are cleared around the furnace, and two or three ſmall tenements on different tracts rented by the year. A plot of the whole may be ſeen at the coffee-houſe in Baltimore, and the lands ſhewn on application to Mr. Thomas Cromwell near the furnace. Sale to begin at the dwelling houſe at 10 o'clock a. m.

CHARLES RIDGELY,
MICHAEL PUE,
W. GOODWIN,
W. BUCHANAN,
ELEANOR DORSEY.

N. B. The ſale is deferred, on account of its not having been advertiſed ſix weeks ſucceſſively in the Maryland Gazette, agreeable to law.

Office for the preſervation and ſale of forfeited eſtates, April 9, 1781.

To be SOLD at VENDUE,

THE two manors of Beaver-dam and Chaptico, lying in St. Mary's county, in parcels as granted to the preſent poſſeſſors, or otherwiſe, as may be moſt conducive to the purpoſe intended. Many of the leaſes are expired, ſeveral for the lives of perſons yet in being, and others for terms of years yet unexpired. The ſale of Beaver-dam will begin at Leonard town on Tueſday the 29th of May next, and of Chaptico on the Monday following. One fifth of the ſum bid to be paid in ſpecie, within three weeks from the day of ſale, the remainder in bills of credit of the new emiſſion, one half in two months, and the other half in four months from the day of ſale.

By order, G. DUVALL, cl.

N. B. The ſale of Beaver-dam manor above mentioned is poſtponed until Tueſday the 12th of June, and of Chaptico until the Monday following. G. D.

March 19, 1781.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a petition ſigned by the ſubſcribers and many others was preſented to the laſt general aſſembly, praying the confirmation of a road, which was laid out ſoon after the building of Ellicott's lower mills, and which led out of the Elk-ridge road above Mr. Ely Dorſey's, and between ſaid Mr. Ely Dorſey's and Mr. Michael Dorſey's, alſo between Mr. Brice Howard's and Mr. Joſhua Howard's to the land of Mr. Rezin Hammond, then thro' the land of ſaid Rezin Hammond to the upper corner of Valentine Brown's lane, there to interſect an accuſtomed road, then down ſaid Brown's lane to Patuxent bridge, then with the main road to Dr. Pue's lane, then to Hell-town, thence to Balderſon's tavern, and ſo to Ellicott's lower mills; which ſaid petition was referred to the conſideration of the next general aſſembly. Notice of the ſame will be continued in this gazette for eight weeks, agreeable to the reſolve of the honourable houſe of delegates.

REZIN HAMMOND,
PUE,
JOSHUA HOWARD.

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